

# AMERICAN SPHINX IS CHISELLED

AS America created a sphinx? A great concrete statue erected on the banks of the Rock River at Oregon, Ill., has been built by Gutzon B. Taft, the sculptor, with every aid that modern engineering can take to make it as permanent as the Pyramids and other famous landmarks of the world. By his method of applying the concrete Mr. Taft bids fair to accomplish his purpose.

The statue, erected to commemorate the American Indian, represents Black Hawk, chief of the Sacs and Foxes, and with folded arms, looking down the picturesque valley of the Rock River. The figure is of noble proportions, being fifty feet in height, and sits on a bluff 250 feet above the swirling waters of the river.

The claim of the statue to fame rests on three things: First, any one who sees even those who run in automobiles may read its message. As those who are rushing by in autos and steamers and motor boats stop or turn to look at it inevitably recall the former occupancy by the red men of the places they are now in.

Then the statue's great size places on a scale with the Goddess of Liberty, a New York harbor and the great statue of "The Pilgrim" on the New England coast.

Its third and greatest claim to fame is that it is built to be permanent, and is believed that it will outlast the Sphinx, the Pyramids and the stones erected by the Druids.

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## Gigantic Figure of Black Hawk, Indian Chief, Erected on a Bluff Above Rock River in Illinois—Constructed of Concrete Reinforced With Steel

the famous Indian chief, and now in concrete Black Hawk again surveys his former domain, with an air of "familiarity" as one artist has put it.

Black Hawk and his tribes fought on the English side in the war of 1812. He saw sooner than other chiefs that the whites would take all the Indian's hunting grounds from him. He tried everything from war to treaties to check the whites' advance. As he grew old he became more attached to his home along the Rock River and fought against removal to the Iowa reservation by the Government. He even tried living in peace with the whites, but he had achieved such a reputation that any depredations that any Indians committed were laid at his tepee door.

Finally he and his people were driven across the Mississippi by Uncle Sam's soldiers. After that, as an old man, he petitioned the Government that he might come back and view his old domain on the Rock River. Many members of the tribe were brought with him, and suddenly there was panic among the whites. Whether it was intentional from the first on the part of the Indians or the result of suspicion, a war was precipitated. Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis both fought with the whites and Black Hawk was made a prisoner.

It is characteristic of Mr. Taft that when he went about what he hopes will be his most enduring work in a

material way he started with as little fuss as if it were a small matter. Silently and surely the work advanced as he built in character the approach of an Indian. Even the sculptor smiles at his work as if it were a conceit of the moment instead of the project of a lifetime, and succeeds partly in hiding his pleasure in the work.

Mr. Taft did not study any one type or race of Indians in modelling the Black Hawk statue. It is a composite of the Fox and the Sacs, the Sioux and the Mohawks, and was intended to represent the general Indian personality. All the usual Indian trappings, such as the feathers and buckskin, have been left off. There is even a suggestion of the old Roman in the face, which was necessary to make it suggest a spirit unconquered while still the conquered race.

The head and profile and folded arms appear in perfect detail as they are outlined against the sky and forest from many viewpoints around the country. On a clear day, when the leaves are off the trees, the statue is visible at a distance of twenty miles.

The exact site was selected after much experiment. First a rough twenty foot model was made and set up, but it was found that the height and distance were so great that the figure had to be enlarged and placed on a more prominent part of the bluff. Finally a light fifty foot structure was erected on a farm wagon and the wagon was drawn around until the proper location was established.

For the foundation fifteen feet of soil had to be removed before bedrock was struck. Here the top of a natural ledge of stone was reached. The ledge, thirty feet deep, is formed of a succession of steps which have the appearance of being built artificially as they show on the river bluff.

Many engineering difficulties had to be overcome, inasmuch as a great concrete statue had never before been made. The statue contains about two tons of twisted steel reinforcing and approximately 240 cubic yards of concrete, twenty tons of which consists of pink granite screenings, giving it the appearance of a granite statue.

More than 65,000 gallons of water was pumped up from the river for maintaining two steam engines and for mixing the concrete. Four hundred and twenty barrels of cement were used in forming the mixture.

The first model was of plaster and only eight inches high, the next was two feet high and the third six feet. This last served as the working model and was enlarged by careful measurement to a frame of scantlings around an elevator shaft. When the whole figure had been framed in lumber wire netting was stretched over the timbers, and this in turn was covered with burlap for a surface. Later the burlap was painted with plaster of paris to stiffen it and then subjected to a coat of clay water to insure its release from the mould later on. Meanwhile the head was modelled in clay and cast by the usual process, the piece mould being saved for use again in casting the concrete.

A three inch mold was next made over the figure, about ten tons of plaster being used for this purpose, with many heavy timbers for support. The scaffolding was then taken out and a steel reinforcing tower eight feet in diameter was built in its place. This tower ran the entire length of the body, ending in a dome just below the neck, and was designed to support the head and shoulders of solid concrete.

The final work of casting was done in the middle of winter, ten days being required for this work, with two crews of fourteen men each working in day and night shifts. When the mould was

full heat was applied for two days, and then the spirit of Black Hawk was left to the elements. With the removal of this mould the following spring there emerged a perfect monolith concrete statue.

This statue is, in more senses than one, the biggest thing that Mr. Taft has yet done. The statue is immensely simple, the heavy folds of the blanket surrounding the figure suggesting the man's body without following closely its outlines. The dignity, the stoicism and the bitterness of a vanquished leader are there.

An interesting feature of the unveiling ceremonies was addresses by Dr. Charles Eastman and Miss Laura M. Cornelius, or "Wynonah," both full blooded Indians and direct descendants of Black Hawk.

## AMERICANS HELPING DEVELOP RUMANIA

RUMANIA, queen of the Balkan States, has obstinately withstood all efforts of her fiery neighbors to force her to join them in their united struggle against Turkey, for the kingdom is today undergoing a transformation which in a few years will make it one of the most prosperous countries in the world.

Five years ago a prominent American capitalist called attention to Rumania, and it was not long before American money went quietly into Rumanian industrial enterprises. Today the country produces one-fourth of the petroleum of the world, and this alone is a source of immense national wealth. With wealth and prosperity hers, Rumania has had little desire for war and every reason for peace in order to continue her economic transformation.

More than 300,000,000 francs is invested in the petroleum industry of Rumania. Of this sum 100,000,000 francs was contributed by Germany, 100,000,000 by France and a large share of the rest by American capitalists acting under their own names or under the cover of European companies. It may be remarked that the investments in the petroleum industry in Rumania have been so profitable that French capitalists are eagerly buying up all the interests of this sort they can acquire.

In 1910 the total petroleum production was 1,352,280 tons at \$7 a ton, or in all \$9,466,923. The wells in Rumania are far from being exhausted and 1910 showed an increase of production of 55,000 tons over previous years. The petroleum region most exploited runs through the district of Prahova.

Rumania, by her modern constitution, her unique situation in Europe, the variety of her products and the great extent of her still virgin soil may well attract foreign capitalists. The political and administrative organization was regulated by a constitutional assembly in 1866 and there were modifications in 1879 and in 1884.

King Charles I., who has proved himself an excellent sovereign, is the son of Prince Karl of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen and was selected as head of the State in April, 1866, and proclaimed King March 26, 1881.

Besides the crown revenue he has a civil list amounting to 1,185,185 lei (francs) and the heir to the throne has an annual dot of 300,000 lei.

His wife, Queen Elizabeth, better known as Carmen Sylva, is one of the most brilliant women in Europe and an admirable Queen. All the good she has accomplished for the women of her country could never be written. She has revived native industries for women, personally interesting herself in the sale of articles made by her countrywomen. She has given motherly attention to the schools, which are clean and well kept and where children are admirably taught after the latest and most improved methods. She has preached hygiene and cleanliness to her people with such excellent results that the American traveler as he crosses Rumania is amazed at the prosperous looking, well kept farms, which are exploited with the latest American agricultural implements.

It is no wonder that with such prosperity peace seems worth while and that the royal family, zealous in their work for their subjects' best interests, have done everything in their power to preserve the peace so necessary for prosperity.

In the Balkan war Rumania would lose more than she would gain and she is wise enough to know it. In their private life the Rumanian royal family are united and happy and live an ideal life. The Crown Princess Marie, a beautiful woman, is fond of sports and is Colonel of one of the crack regiments. The royal palace is a Mecca for famous writers, savants and artists. Queen Elizabeth receives them with pleasure, for in this society she becomes Carmen Sylva, the comrade and friend. Small wonder that she is beloved all over Europe and is Queen in art as well as in her kingdom.

Rumania is composed of two principalities, Wallachia and Moldavia. The first chief of the nation was Col. Cuza, who was elected Hospodar in 1859 and who governed under the name of Prince Alexander John I. until the revolution gave the power of governing into the hands of the present King Charles. Rumania's independence of Turkey was proclaimed May 21, 1877, and confirmed by Article 43 of the Treaty of Berlin on July 13, 1878.

The number of inhabitants in 1910 was 6,966,000, among whom were 182,875 foreigners, including a large American contingent. The principal cities are Bucharest, with a population of 300,000; Jassy, which has 80,000 inhabitants; Galatz, with 60,000; Braila, with 40,000; Botosani, with 35,000; Ploesti, with 48,000; Craiova, with 40,000; Ierlaci and Focsani, with 25,000 each; Tulcea, with 20,000, and Constantza, with 16,000.

In 1911 the national receipts amounted to 478,305,230 francs, against 252,475,456 in 1907, or nearly double in four years, which gives a good idea of the country's rising prosperity. Like the receipts the national expenses were double in 1911 what they were in 1907. During the month of April this year the receipts were 38,954,000 francs, against 30,391,000 francs in April, 1911, or a gain of nearly nine millions of francs. The excess of receipts over expenses reached on April 30, 1912, were 98,229,000 francs, which gives even a better idea of the thrift and prosperity of the country.

The total amount of State loans is 1,573,175,140 francs, and the interest and charges are carried without burden, while

the receipts more than cover all ordinary expenses. The National Bank of Rumania is a privileged establishment with a capital and reserves amounting in December, 1910, to 39,655,000 francs, with paper in circulation to the amount of 285,986,000 francs. An important financial institution is the Credit Agricole, a bank exclusively for the small peasant and which furnishes him with money to buy his farm on long easy terms. It is an admirably organized concern which has rendered the tillers of the soil incalculable service and is a large factor in the general agricultural prosperity to be noted all over Rumania. American economists have been studying the Rumanian Agricultural Credit Bank with the view of organizing an establishment of this kind in the United States. Many countries in Europe have inaugurated the system, but none more successfully than Rumania.

Immense fertile plains make the country particularly favorable for agricultural pursuits. The kingdom embraces some 13,000,000 hectares, of which only half is cultivated, a quarter being occupied by forests and the rest waiting for the thrifty farmer. One wonders why the European emigrant braves the sea and goes to America with the fertile soil of Rumania right at his gate, with a particularly favorable climate and with rich harvests for minimum toil.

In 1910 the value of the crops reached 1,304,609,855 francs, an increase of 249,000,000 francs over 1909.

Cereals alone represent a sum of 1,066,236,679 francs, or 81.73 per cent. of the total output. The wheat crop sold for 578,342,283 francs and the corn crop for 235,530,236 francs. Large quantities of flax are raised and sugarbeets and tobacco occupy a prominent place in the agricultural products.

American vines figure largely in the vine plantation. The hilly regions of Wallachia, which furnish the celebrated Dragashani and Dealu-Mare wines, are almost entirely planted with American vines. Of the total area of vineyards, 60,000 hectares, 11,000 hectares are planted in American vines and the area occupied by native vines is rapidly giving place to American vines. As an example, in 1911 there was a diminution in the area planted in native vines of 2,866 hectares over 1909 and an increase in the American plantation of 2,935 hectares. A hectare equals approximately two and a half acres.

Manufacturing industry has developed vigorously and here American impulse and American capital have played a prominent part. Rumanian industry has increased almost miraculously, thanks to the good transportation facilities. Here the provident hand of the Government has aided both manufacturers and railroads. In 1887, to encourage national industry, a law was passed according manufacturers under certain conditions numerous special advantages such as exemption from taxes and from duties on raw materials, reduction in railroad rates and preference to home manufacturers in all State contracts. Thus Rumania's industries, which hardly existed a few years ago, to-day count 709 manufacturing establishments employing some 49,000 men and representing a total capital of over half a billion francs.

These figures are all the more interesting because they are the development of an exceedingly short period and the results have been obtained in a country

which the world at large has generally considered a purely agricultural nation of small importance. I may add that the new tariff, which went into effect in 1903, accords good protection to home industries.

One cannot speak of industries in Rumania without devoting special attention to petroleum. As I said, Rumania ranks fourth among the world's oil producing countries. Oil is the source of the nation's largest revenues. After it comes sugar making, in which capital amounting to some fifty millions of francs is invested. Then follows iron and steel manufacture, with a large part allotted to the construction of agricultural implements and absorbing thirty millions of capital. The manufacture of silk and all kinds of dress goods, paper making, leather making, are all prosperous industries, and milling has reached such a thriving condition that Rumania, until quite recently dependent on Austria for flour and all similar articles, not only has ceased to import such goods, but is now exporting all products of this class in large quantities. The great flour mills of Bucharest, Galatz, Braila, Jassy, ultra modern in equipment, are grinding out flour for the world. Chemical products, ceramics, cement, bricks, glass, candies and soap are other important products.

Every year new enterprises are springing into life, and here American capital is hard at work. During 1910 61,522,325 francs of new capital was invested in Rumanian enterprises, distributed as follows: In oil companies, 24,000,000 francs; in forest exploitation, textile industries and paper making, 7,235,000 francs; in metallurgy and construction, 2,259,000 francs; in various other enterprises, 20,839,000 francs. Rumania had a particularly prosperous year in 1910, and her banks and railroads felt the happy effect of good crops and plenty of money made new enterprises easy.

Commerce has kept pace with agriculture and industry, and in 1909, the last year covered in the report of the Minister of Finance, the foreign commerce was estimated at 833,356,000 francs. Exports amounted to 465,056,000 francs, or an increase of more than 85,000,000 over the preceding year. Lumber leads the list, figuring for 21,395,326 francs, and in purely alimentary products wheat figures for 178,013,901 francs and corn for 102,716,078 francs. One may fairly say that Rumania is the cornfield of Europe.

Strange as it may seem, Belgium is the largest buyer of Rumanian wheat, its annual purchases amounting to 100,000,000 francs. Holland, Austria, England, Italy, Germany, Turkey and France all buy wheat from the Queen of the Balkans; indeed bread rose to five cents a pound and Europe feared a bread famine when recently Turkey threatened again to close the Dardanelles and thus shut off Rumanian wheat just at the height of the harvest season. Austria buys wheat worth 91,891,091 francs a year, Holland 49,390,000 francs and England 29,000,000 francs.

The largest consumer of the Rumanian oil companies is France, which buys 14,000,000 francs worth of oil a year, and is followed by England and Germany. It may be added that a great deal of French capital is invested in the oil industries of the country, and the famous Aquila Franco-Romana Company was in the major part constituted with French capital. Turkey is the only nation importing oil from Rumania that buys

it in tin cans. So great is the quantity bought by other nations that it is always transported in tank steamships.

Imports have been singularly diminished in Rumania owing to the prosperous condition of home industries. Leather and articles made of leather, woollens, textiles and machinery are being less and less imported. Germany, Austria and England are fiercely struggling for a trade monopoly. France has suffered little, as the objects of luxury she sends to Rumania are more and more in demand by a population which is daily growing richer and cultivating a taste for the beautiful. In hats and dresses France maintains its supremacy, and no nation for the present attempts to compete with her in beautiful interior decoration and works of art for furnishing purposes.

French books are also largely imported and French culture is the universal vogue. The Queen's fondness for French literature, music and art is well known and the public libraries are full of French books. French plays enjoy more popularity in Bucharest than anywhere else in Europe save Russia, and French artists are always in demand.

Every year Rumania imports quantities of agricultural implements of every kind. Over 2,000,000 francs is invested in these machines. In this Rumania is away ahead of other European nations.

Gas motors are also in general use and much more is used to economize labor in greater proportion than anywhere else. The importations of automobiles, bicycles and wagons of all sorts has been rapidly falling, as Rumania is now manufacturing her own vehicles. Germany and Austria have lost heavily in this line and the cheap American vehicle has supplanted all but the expensive French machine.

Ever since 1880, when Rumania loans were admitted to the French Bourse quotations, Rumania has been borrowing large amounts of money from France, which is gradually establishing a financial protectorate over Europe. In 1909 Rumania borrowed 274,375,000 francs at 4 per cent. In 1911 a loan of 129,000,000 franc was made at 4 per cent; in 1908 Rumania again called upon France, this time for 90,000,000 francs; in 1908 for 180,000,000 and in 1910 for 128,000,000. This money was to be used for the extension of the railroads and the improvement of the port of Constanza.

Bucharest, Rumania's capital, has been justly called the Paris of the East. While it is a semi-oriental town, its general character recalls Paris; divided into the yellow, red, green, black and blue districts or wards, it presents a varied and picturesque appearance.

Even the old national hereditary enemies of Rumania, the Turks and the Jews, are treated with consideration. Indeed, Rumania is one of the semi-oriental countries where the Jews are not officially persecuted and made the scapegoat for all the rascals in the land and picturesquely appear.

It has been predicted that within the next few years numbers of new American enterprises will be competing with England and Germany for trade in articles manufactured in Rumania.



ANNA HELD, WHOSE EYES ARE STILL MISBEHAVING DESPITE INDIAN'S SPHINX LOOK.



Statue of Black Hawk.

figures for exhibitions have been made of concrete in the past, nothing approaching in magnitude or purpose the present piece of work has ever before been attempted with this material. It was a labor of love with the sculptor, who bore all the expense himself.

Behind the building of the Black Hawk statue lies an interesting story. A few years ago Mr. Taft was watching some workmen build a concrete chimney at the Chicago Art Institute, and here came to him his great idea of the years for making an enduring statue. With the process in mind it was not long until an adequate subject presented itself.

For fifteen years Mr. Taft has had his summer home and studio at Eagle's Nest Camp, near Oregon, the summer seat of the Chicago Art Institute, standing for the hundredth time at the highest point of the cliff he never failed to remember that it was from here that Black Hawk was finally driven out of Illinois. So he decided to bring back



Removing the Piece Mold.